

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 USUN N 02262 152343Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----079850 152346Z /65

O 152215Z JUL 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHIC IMMEDIATE 4492  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T USUN 2262

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, MOPS, PDEV, ET, SO, US  
SUBJ: SOMALI REQUESTS US ARMS

REF: STATE 161221

1. WE REGRET THIS COMMENT WAS DELAYED BY THE NEW YORK BLACK-  
OUT. FOR POSSIBLE INTEREST AND REACTION OF ADDRESSEES, HOWEVER,  
USUN TRANSMITS THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL.

2. VIEWING THE PROBLEM OF STRATEGY TOWARD SOMALIA FROM THE  
UN VANTAGEPOINT, WE OF COURSE AGREE THAT WE SHOULD NOT DO  
ANYTHING TO UPSET THE MOMENTUM OF SOMALI MOVES AWAY FROM  
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THE USSR. OUR IMPRESSION, FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER  
DELEGATIONS IN NEW YORK, IS THAT THE SOMALI SEARCH FOR  
ALTERNATIVES HAS CREATED REAL PRESSURE ON THE SOVIET  
UNION.

3. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT CLEAR WHAT "MORE NORMAL  
US-SOMALI RELATIONS" ARE, GIVEN THE HISTORY OF THE LAST

TEN YEARS OR SO. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IN ANY EVENT NORMAL RELATIONS OUGHT TO BE BUILT PRIMARILY ON MILITARY TIES, WHETHER TO FILL NEEDS CREATED BY THE RIFT IN SOMALIA'S SOVIET RELATIONSHIP OR TO BUILD A FUTURE DEGREE OF DEPENDENCE ON THE US. WE THEREFORE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE MEASURES OSTENSIBLY POINTING TOWARD NORMALCY IN OUR RELATIONS LISTED IN PARA 7 OF REFTEL ARE LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE SOMALIS OR HELPFUL IN LAYING A MORE SOLID BASE FOR OUR EFFORT TO DEVELOP A POSITION IN RELATION WITH SOMALIA SERVING OUR REGIONAL AND CONTINENTAL NEEDS.

4. WE EXCEPT FROM THE LATTER POINT THE IDEA OF ACCELERATED FOLLOW-UP TO RECENT USAID ECONOMIC SURVEY TEAM. IT SEEMS TO US PERFECTLY TUNED TO OUR POSTURE ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA, AND PARTICULARLY IN THE HORN (SUDAN), FOR US TO EMPHASIZE OUR WILLINGNESS TO LOOK AT ECONOMIC REQUIREMENTS. WE HAVE A CERTAIN BASE ON WHICH TO WORK IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD IN SOMALIA OUT OF THE HISTORY OF THE '60'S. AFRICANS WOULD NOT BE PARTICULARLY SURPRISED IF WE ORCHESTRATED OUR APPROACH TO CLOSER SOMALI RELATIONS WITH MILITARY GESTURES, AND SOME MIGHT APPLAUD, BUT BASICALLY IT WOULD CUT AGAINST THE GRAIN OF OUR TOTAL POLICY-SET IN THE CONTINENT. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, ON THE OTHER HAND, CONFORMS WITH THE POSTURE WE ARE DEVELOPING.

5. THE SOMALI FOCUS ON MILITARY NEEDS, OF COURSE, WILL NOT  
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GO AWAY. WE THEREFORE THINK IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO CONTINUE LISTENING, PERHAPS AGREE TO A MILITARY SURVEY OF SOMALI MILITARY NEEDS BY OUR PEOPLE. ANY RESPONSE SHOULD BE MEASURED, HOWEVER, AND AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO ESTABLISH THE US ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE OF THE AID EFFORT RATHER THAN MILITARY.

6. ONE ADDITIONAL NOTE THAT NO DOUBT IS OBVIOUS IS THAT THE SOMALI MILITARY OBJECTIVES AS REFLECTED IN THE SHOPPING LIST REFTEL HARDLY SEEM DEFENSIVE IN NATURE. THEY WOULD SEEM STILL TO SUPPORT SOMALI OBJECTIVES IN THE OGADEN AND DJIBOUTI.  
LEONARD

SECRET

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, ARMS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, POLICIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** SOMALI REQUESTS US ARMS  
**TAGS:** MASS, MOPS, PDEV, ECON, ET, SO, US, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009